



China

Welcome to China, the nation which stood for centuries as the leading civilization of the world with its arts, sciences and inventions. Now, its rapid economic development has made many people believe it will become the next super power in the 21st Century.

By joining in our YFU exchange program to China, you will have the opportunity to experience the mix tradition and modernization, the prosperity of Shanghai in the east, the stunning scenery of the world's least know UN listed natural heritages in the west, the mouth-watering sizzling Chinese dishes, and the daily hospitality of Chinese people !!

If your image of China is still a slow-paced nation surrounded by bike riders on the streets, then it is time to update it with some new understanding of modern China. If you can keep an open mind to face the cultural and language challenge and immerse yourself into the society there, you will be one step ahead of many others to achieve better understanding of a very complex and promising nation in the 21st Century.

Want to know what China is like today? Join YFU to China, see it from your own eyes, and feel it from your own heart and soul!



Short Facts

Geography

Stretching from its southern borders in the Himalayas to the deserts of Mongolia in the north, and from the East China Sea through the Yangzi River Valley plains, to the Tibetan Plateau in the western mainland, China covers an area of 9,596,960 square kilometres.

Climate

Extremely diverse; tropical in south to sub arctic in north

Population: 1,306,313,812 (July 2005 EST)





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Language

Many Chinese tend to speak Standard Chinese or Mandarin (called "Putonghua", means commonly spoken language), Yue (Cantonese), Wu (Shanghaiese), Minbei (Fuzhou), Minnan (Hokkien-Taiwanese), Xiang, Gan, Hakka dialects, minority languages (see Ethnic groups entry)

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Economy

In late 1978 the Chinese leadership began moving the economy from a sluggish, inefficient, Soviet-style centrally planned economy to a more market-oriented system. China in 2004 stood as the second-largest economy in the world after the US, although in per capita terms the country is still poor. Agriculture and industry have posted major gains especially in coastal areas near Hong Kong and opposite Taiwan and in Shanghai, where foreign investment has helped spur output of both domestic and export goods.

History

For centuries China stood as a leading civilization, outpacing the rest of the world in the arts and sciences, but in the 19th and early 20th centuries, the country was beset by civil unrest, major famines, military defeats, and foreign occupation. After World War II, the Communists under MAO Zedong established an autocratic socialist system that, while ensuring China's sovereignty, imposed strict controls over everyday life and cost the lives of tens of millions of people. After 1978, his successor DENG Xiaoping and other leaders focused on market-oriented economic development and by 2000 output had quadrupled. For much of the population, living standards have improved dramatically and the room for personal choice has expanded.





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Government

China is currently a Communist state.

Education

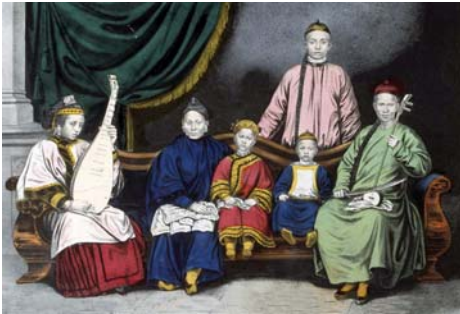
Schooling begins at age 6. Elementary school (6 year), middle school (3 years) and high schools (3 years) form government. Chinese schools have two semesters in general. The school year begins at the end of the August and ends mid July. the 12 grade schooling system. Public schools are supervised by local education commission, which is part of the city or county government. Chinese schools have two semesters in general. The school year begins at the end of the August and ends mid July.

Currency

China's currency is Yuan (CNY)

Family life

Family members usually live close together and continue to care for and help each other. Unmarried adult children, unless they are assigned their own quarters, remain at home until married. Chinese seniors are revered for their wisdom and experience and are usually cared for by their families; some urban seniors with good pensions may move into seniors' residences.



YFU in China

YFU Greater China was established in 2001. It has been working closely with UNESCO China, Beijing Municipal Education Commission, Guangdong

Education Commission and Shanghai Education Commission want to establish better relationship with local schools for both recruiting outbound students and placing inbound international students.

Exchanges with: France, Japan, Korea, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, and the USA

YFU Activities

